

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 05901 060739Z

21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ITF-05 SR-02 ORM-01 ACDA-05 AID-20

CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /083 W

----- 033892

O 060713Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE NIACT 2977

INFO CINCPAC

CINCPACREPHIL

HQ13AF

JCS

DOD

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 5901

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, CB, VS, RP, US

SUBJECT: U.S. TITLE TO VIETNAMESE MILITARY EQUIPMENT

REF: MANILA 5870

1. I DISCUSSED QUESTION OF TITLE TO VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN MILITARY VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS MORING MAY 6. HE HAD ALREADY BEEN ALERTED TO PROBLEM BY MELCHOR.

2. MARCOS IMMEDIATELY RECOGNIZED IMPLICATIONS OF PROBLEM AND STATED THAT IT WAS NOT RPT NOT IN PHILIPPINE INTERESTS TO PLACE ITSELF IN MIDDLE OF THIS ISSUE. HE THEREFORE CALLED SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ENRILE AND INSTRUCTED HIM TO FIND SOME WAY OUT OF PREDICAMENT CREATED BY ROMULO'S NOTE.

3. ENRILE HAS DISCUSSED ONE OR TWO POSSIBLE LOOPHOLES WITH ME, BUT HAS AGREED THAT HE CAN PROCEED EFFECTIVELY ONLY  
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WHEN HE LEARNS EXACTLY WHAT LANGUAGE ROMULO HAS

COMMUNICATED TO HANOI. IF LANGUAGE IN "NOTE" TO HANOI IS AS TIGHTLY WORDED AS LANGUAGE IN NOTE SENT TO US, ENRILE MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY IN FINDING WORKABLE LOOPHOLE.

4. HOWEVER, MARCOS INTENTION IS CLEARLY TO PERMIT US TO EXERCISE TITLE AND PREVENT RETURN OF VESSELS AND SHIPS TO INDOCHINA. ENRILE UNDERSTANDS AND SYMPATHIZES WITH THIS OBJECTIVE. HE HAS PROMISED TO GET BACK TOGETHER WITH ME AS SOON AS HE HAS SOME SUGGESTIONS. I WILL STRESS TO HIM URGENT NEED TO RESOLVE ISSUE BEFORE VESSELS IN VIETNAMESE FLOTILLA REACH SUBIC ETA FIRST LIGHT MAY 7.  
SULLIVAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 06 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** RowellE0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 75 MANILA 5870  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** RowellE0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** U.S. TITLE TO VIETNAMESE MILITARY EQUIPMENT  
**TAGS:** AEMR, CB, VS, RP, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006